

----- Original Message -----

From: "Roberta Zenker" <roberta@disabilityrightsmt.org>

To: <asuenram@swmtlaw.com>

Cc: "Probasco, Peggy" <pprobasco@mt.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 09, 2009 3:04 PM

Judicial Nominations Commission

November 9, 2009

Dear Andy:

I am writing on behalf of Peggy Probasco to support her nomination for the Montana Supreme Court. As you know, I have had the privilege of knowing Peggy for many years. For those who do not know, I was once married to her, but that is another story. It is true that I am biased, however, please consider that the fact that we remain best of friends bespeaks of her integrity and depth of character.

These are characteristics that she has brought to bear in her dedicated service as a State's attorney committed to a career in public service. She has fought hard for those who might otherwise have been marginalized, and as such represents what is best about our legal system. She has acted as a consultant to family law practitioners throughout the State for several years. She has taken on the unenviable task of teaching lawyers and judges the vagaries of the child support guidelines and has been so successful that she is recognized as an expert all over Montana. She has become adept at the process of lawyering; getting the facts, finding the law and advocating for truth in her clients' best interest. She has done trial work from both sides of the bench, and knows the rules of evidence and procedure, and is able to apply them and analyze the cases and circumstances in which they would be subject to review. She is adept at legal research and writing.

Ms. Probasco is very involved in the State Bar, serving in several positions over the years, most recently the President. She has been involved with the Professionalism Committee and the Access to Justice Committee. She has done pro bono work as well, such that she is a champion of many less fortunate persons who might otherwise be denied the opportunity to be served by the rule of law and the institutions that administer it.

I write on Peggy's behalf, not only because I am her friend, but in spite of that fact. It would be easier to conclude that because I admit to bias that my comments will be ignored. However, even though I admire the other candidates, I believe that because of her unique combination of ability and experience, professionalism, ethics, and integrity she is the best person for the job. She has the temperament, ability and desire to serve as the next Montana Supreme Court Justice.

Sincerely

/S/

Roberta R. Zenker

Attorney at Law

## JASPER SMITH OLSON P.C.

Lance P. Jasper  
Cynthia K. Smith  
Katie Olson  
Bekki Weldon  
*Attorneys at Law*

202 W. Spruce St.  
P.O. Box 7785  
Missoula MT 59807-7785  
Phone: (406) 541-7177  
Fax: (406) 541-7179

November 12, 2009

Monica Paoli  
106 Crestline Dr.  
Missoula MT 59803

RE: Application of Peggy Probasco

Dear Monica:

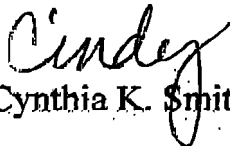
I am writing to express my support for Peggy Probasco for her application for appointment to the Montana Supreme Court. I have known Peggy for many years through State Bar work. Peggy is an extremely intelligent person with a great deal of common sense. She worked in both criminal and civil litigation before going to to work for the State's Child Support Enforcement Agency, so she has a broad base of experience to offer.

I know that Peggy has a deep interest in public service and the access to justice. She would be a wonderful addition to the court, and I recommend her highly to you and the other members of the Judicial Nomination Commission.

Thanks for considering my input.

Sincerely,

JASPER SMITH OLSON P.C.

  
Cynthia K. Smith